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16 February 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. BISSELL

SUBJECT : Admittance to Operations Control Center

1. Once we are established in our new location, it is expected that extremely sensitive operational material will be on more or less open and permanent display. In certain parts of the Center individuals will be working with sensitive materials in open view. In other areas sensitive material will be either openly on display or given only light protection offered by draw drops, et cetera. Conversations may also be taking place that should not be overheard by unauthorized personnel.

2. For the above and other reasons it is imperative that the Control Center be treated as a restricted area within Project Headquarters. Your policy is sought as to the degree of restriction that is to be imposed. For example, should we adopt the approach, "why shouldn't a person enter the restricted area," or the approach, "why should an individual have access to the restricted area." In the first instance probably no Project personnel would necessarily be excluded. In the second, only those having a strict "need to know" would have access.

3. I recommend the latter course. If you accept this recommendation as policy, I will follow up with specific recommendations as to individuals to be given access and recommendation for procedures to implement proper security.

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Colonel USAF

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